



# The GRIFFIN

Quarterly Newsletter for the Clan Forsyth Society of the U.S.A.

member



Volume 36 Issue 4

October 2014

## Scotland Decides

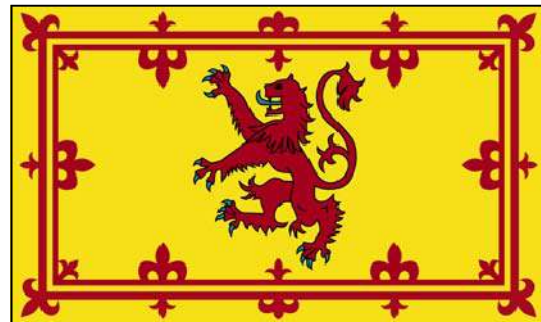


By: Chief Alistair C.W. Forsyth of that Ilk

"Freedom" were the last words uttered in defiance by Sir William Wallace as he stood on the scaffold before his execution for leading the defiance against King Edward 1<sup>st</sup> of England in 1297. Just 17 years later Scotland would again follow a leader, this time Robert the Bruce in the successful engagement at Bannockburn that would give Scotland its independence again for a period that would last for over 300 years. During this period there were frequent attempts by England to regain control of its Northern neighbour, not only by invasions but also by dynastic marriages. The bride of James IV was Margaret Tudor sister to Henry VIII of England, Mary Queen of Scots was persuaded to marry Lord Henry Darnley and it was through their son James VI of Scotland who became James I of England and brought about the Union of the Crowns in 1603, that the Kingdoms came closer; nevertheless Scotland remained independent and its institutions intact. In 1606 King James moved to integrate his kingdoms and appointed Commissioners to negotiate the terms, there was no agreement and a similar situation continued for the next hundred years, notwithstanding the attempt by Oliver Cromwell to integrate the countries by force without success and so on the Restoration, King Charles II continued the process and appointed more Commissioners.

However Scotland still retained its independence until in 1707 when following the disastrous attempt to colonise the Panama Peninsular, known as the Darien Scheme, that Scotland, the financial backers of that Scheme, consisting of many of the aristocracy, whose influence predominated in the Scottish Parliament, ac-

*(Continued on page 8)*



By: Amelia Couper, member living in England

Having lived in Scotland, both in Catholic/separatist and Protestant/unionist areas, I realised last year that the referendum vote would cause a bit of tension. I also knew that most of the hostility and annoyance could come from south of the border. I had no idea, though, that the vote would be so contentious, so fuelled with angst and aggression amongst the Scottish people themselves! In the last weeks of the impending vote, people were fighting within their own neighbourhoods, one side tearing down or vandalising the other's signs/advertisements, sometimes off of windows of private homes. But what I found the most vile and disappointing was the attitude in Westminster, and with certain English, concerning possible Scottish independence. Also, the "Better Together" or "No" camp was especially nasty in their approach in my opinion. How did all the major political parties (Conservative, Liberal Democrats, Labour) handle this impending referendum? Basically, they threatened Scotland. The Bank of England threatened Scotland. The EU Government threatened Scotland.

Keep in mind there is also a general parliamentary election coming up next spring 2015, so political parties in Britain have begun to warm up their bids for seats across the country. They all decided they had to make a strong stand against Scottish independence. In the last few days before the vote, all the party leaders (Cameron, Clegg, & Milliband) travelled to Scotland to make speeches against independence. They all warned that Scotland would economically collapse, would lose EU membership, would lose defence, lose their NHS funding, and basically would and could not survive without England.

*(Continued on page 7)*

Clan Forsyth Society U.S.A. is a non-profit  
Organization incorporated 17 April 1998

**Chief of Clan Forsyth**  
Alistair C.W. Forsyth of that Ilk

**Chief's Commissioner in the U.S.A.**  
CWO Dale M. Forsyth Sandusky-navy ret.  
FSA Scot

**Chief's Commissioner for Canada**  
E.D.Forsyth

#### USA Elected Officers

President:

CWO Dale M. Forsyth Sandusky-navy ret.  
FSA Scot

4336 South 3150 West  
West Valley City, Utah 84119  
Phone: (801) 969-7030

E-Mail: [Forsyth@xmission.com](mailto:Forsyth@xmission.com)

Treasurer:.....Tanya Sandusky

Western Vice President

Robert W. Forsyth  
E-Mail: [foogie5@att.net](mailto:foogie5@att.net)

Eastern Vice President

Marsha Richardson  
E-Mail: [MarshaRichardson@gmail.com](mailto:MarshaRichardson@gmail.com)

Secretary..... Position Open

#### APPOINTED POSITIONS

Genealogists:

Marsha Richardson &  
Robert Leishman, Assistant  
11202 N 61st Street  
Temple Terrace, FL 33617

E-Mail: [MarshaRichardson@gmail.com](mailto:MarshaRichardson@gmail.com)

&

Edward E. Forsyth, Emeritus  
E-Mail: [EdForsyth@aol.com](mailto:EdForsyth@aol.com)

Chaplain:

Rev. Steve Forsythe  
2730 St. Clair AV  
East Liverpool, OH 43920  
E-Mail: [smfckf@yahoo.com](mailto:smfckf@yahoo.com)

#### REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Northeastern.....Steve Forsythe  
New England.....Jane Platt  
Pacific Coastal.....Robert W. Forsyth  
Southeastern.CDR Lance Forsythe, Navy Retired  
Rocky Mountain.....James (Jim) Forsythe

#### STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Arkansas..... Richard H. Forsythe  
Arizona.....C.Benton Scott  
California (central).....Robert W. Forsythe  
Colorado..... Robert D. Forsyth  
Florida .....CDR Lance L.Forsythe, Navy ret.  
Iowa.....George A. Forsyth  
Kentucky.....James P. Forsyth  
Maryland..... William R. WeaverII  
Minnesota.....open  
Nevada .....Rebecca Woods Baker  
New York.....Warren C. Forsythe  
North Carolina.....Gregory H.Forsythe  
New Mexico.....James H. Forsythe  
Oklahoma.....Kami L.Hoar  
Pennsylvania...Bonnie J. Dick & Keith Sandusky  
South Carolina..... Rebecca L. Forsythe  
Texas.....Douglas D.Forsythe  
Utah.....Doreane Sandusky Jarmin  
Washington .....Cheryl M. Forsyth Reid



## Ceud Mile Failte! A Hundred Thousand Welcomes!

Chris & Eliana Forsythe - GA

Sylvia Jean Smith - NC

Celebrate  
Robert Burns  
Birthday  
January 25th.



#### THE FORSYTH TARTANS

The Scottish Soldiers shown above are dressed in the Forsyth Tartan. On the left is the modern and on the right is the ancient. Tartan is usually woven in wool, which is the fabric used for kilts, and is available at Scottish shops around the country. You may also purchase ties, scarves and other items from these shops or from a vender at your local Highland Games.

#### HYPERLINKS

Throughout the E-Mail Version of The Griffin you will find hyperlinks (Blue underlined words). These will link you to websites, videos and e-mail addresses by simply clicking on them. Hope you enjoy. If you find others you would like to share, please send them to us.

#### The Clan Forsyth Newsletter Is Your Publication

Only with the help of all members is this publication possible. We need you to contribute, suggestions, ideas, articles, anecdotes, funny stores, photos of you and your family or those of your Forsyth ancestors.

*The Deadline for the January Issue Is December 15th.*

Marsha Richardson, The Griffin, Editor  
11202 N. 61st St; Temple Terrace, FL 33617  
E-Mail: [MarshaRichardson@gmail.com](mailto:MarshaRichardson@gmail.com)  
Phone: ( 813) 899-2328

Editing Staff: Kathleen Cooper, Trish Gardner, Libby Harris, George Kelly  
Linda Kennedy, Ginger Kinzer, Janine Taft and Jane Platt

**Clan Forsyth Society U.S.A. Website**  
<http://www.xmission.com/~forsyth/>



## A Message From Our President

CWO Dale M. Forsyth Sandusky-Navy Ret., FSA Scot  
Chief's Commissioner in the U.S.A.

### *Fond Memories*

My best to each of you who are reading this October newsletter. It has been an interesting summer with the many weather changes across this country. I am hoping that the fall and Holiday season will allow some normality back into the weather patterns as we need to pause, breathe deeply and catch up with ourselves. As a youngster, I loved this time of year and I felt the pace of activity around me was slowing down. The days seemed cooler after Labor Day and the sun started setting a little earlier. One thing that stands out in my mind was that the clock was set back one hour and that seemed to shorten the daylight just like pulling the window blind down to darken the bedroom. The games we played on fall nights always centered under the illumination from the street light on the tall wooden pole that carried electricity through the wires that seemed to stretch forever from pole to pole.

We continued to play our games until our parents began calling us home to get ready for bed as we had to be up early for school in the morning. In our neighborhood, it seemed that parents spent a lot of time in the evening out on the front porch. They watched over us while listening to the radio or talking with neighbors who came over to visit. Our house seemed to always be a center point to assemble. I am sure that if you stop and think about it, your home life at this time of year has it's memories.

Halloween was always a special night and we could not wait until supper was over to put on our costume, get a goodie bag and enter the darkening neighborhood. We would knock on every door and yell "Trick or Treat" while awaiting the door to open and the hoped for treat. Occasionally there was a trick that accompanied a visit to certain homes or some extra decorations placed about the yard or porch to enhance the occasion. As years passed, we were then considered too old but were given the responsibility to accompany younger siblings on their fun filled adventure. I did not mind this hour of responsibility and at some homes, I was offered a treat to enjoy. Neighbors watched out for neighbors and we seemed be one large family organization and as I think about it, some were related to us.

November presented Thanksgiving when we gave thanks to the practice of celebrating a good harvest season. I remember that the relatives on Mom's side would

always show up at our home for this big gathering that always had a gigantic roasted turkey placed at the center of the table. All day long the activity in the kitchen produced aromas that finally were allowed to be tested as the individual food items were passed around the table. That is except for the bird that Dad controlled and cut off slices that were passed to fulfill each person's request. As I remember, I always enjoyed the stuffing best and topped it with turkey gravy. The most difficult meal selection came later as I had to choose from the many desserts that the relatives supplied. Best of all, I remember the unity of the family that gathered for this celebration each year.

In December, winter officially arrived a few days before Christmas and it was always a time of doubt that I had made Santa's good list. On a few years, the vote was close but I felt that Mom and Dad put in a good word for me before the deadline and it must have worked, because I never did get coal in my stocking. Again, it was the family unity that held it all together.

I cannot leave out New Years Eve as we were sent to bed early so to be awakened just before midnight. We would be handed a large spoon and a pie plate to bang on as the new year rolled in to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne" being played by Guy Lombardo and the Royal Canadians that came blaring over the radio. At the time we kids did not realize that the words were written by and attributed to Robert Burns and set to an old folk tune. It was never meant to be the introduction to a new year but seems to fit the need, very nicely, still today. After the celebration noise calmed down, we were set down at the table to eat pork roast boiled in a large pot of smelly sauerkraut and Mom always dumped in hot dogs for the kids. A good start for the New Year and now that I think about it, a good cleaning out process for the kids of all the goodies eaten over the holiday season.

I am sure that you can remember stories of your youth that might bring a chuckle to our readers. Please think about writing them down and sending them to us for publication in "The Griffin".

Have a great holiday season and take the time to tell others you appreciate them. I hope the stocking you hang above the fireplace is only filled with good things.





## The Chaplain's Corner

Rev. Steve Forsythe, Ohio Member  
Clan Forsyth Society USA, Chaplin

Let me confess – my greatest sin is worrying. Don't ask those around me. They might list many more, but I know my heart and even when I don't outwardly show it, I am prone to worry. I know it is wrong. Many Sundays I hear our preacher say "Worry is lack of faith and the Bible teaches without faith it is impossible to please God." (Oh wait, I am my preacher)! However knowing and changing are too different things.

This past week, full of worries, I decided to get away from the routine and go hiking at our closest state park. I know that God is everywhere, but I seem to find Him easier when I am on a backwoods hiking trail. As I was heading up the side of the mountain, I started praying. I think each line of my prayer started with "God, I do not know what to do about .... Please help me." I was praying, but to be totally honest, it did not seem to be helping.

Stopping and sitting for a while on a fallen tree, I started watching a little yellow finch darting tree to tree. Always on the move, he was a blur of color. Noticing movement to my right I turned and there diving from a branch into the stream was a yellow tailed oriole seeking out one of the numerous water bugs for his dinner.

As I sat there for over an hour, talking with God, the variety of birds continued. Slowly and majestically a crane silently glided by just a few feet above the water. All the while, circling overhead were several hawks, most likely on the lookout for a stray rabbit below.

As I quietly reflected on what I was seeing my mind called up the promise of Jesus when He said *"That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?"* And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are, and if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? (Matthew 6: 24-30).

The flight of the birds around me reminded me of several important lessons. One of those was that each of those birds was different. They looked different, flew different, and even had different needs. Yet, no matter what their need, they could fly with the confidence that God was lord over everything that affected their lives.

Another lesson was their carefree approach to life. Whatever way the winds were blowing, they were content to ride the wind streams, knowing that struggling against the wind would not get them to their destination. I would just wear them out,

After a peaceful afternoon with God, I descended back down the trail knowing that most of the things I was worried about were not really in my control. However, every one of those worries were totally in Gods control. So, like my friends, the birds, I decided to leave my worries behind. Then, as I got to the bottom of the trail, I remembered! Oh no, I needed to get home and write a devotional for the Clan Forsyth newsletter. What would I say? Would people like it? Would I get it done in time?

So maybe one trip up that path didn't fix everything, but at least it gave me a fresh reminder of one area of my life that I need to constantly and consistently work on. Maybe next month I will tackle something easier in my life – something like patience.



**Steven M. Forsythe,**  
who presently serves as our  
Society Chaplain,  
has accepted the  
additional appointment as  
North Eastern  
Region Director.

**Doreane Sandusky Jarmin**  
has accepted the position  
as the  
Clan Forsyth Society  
Representative for Utah.



**Rebecca Woods Baker**  
has accepted the position  
as the  
Clan Forsyth Society  
Representative for Nevada

# The History of our Forsyth Tartan and Motto

By: Chief Alistair C.W. Forsyth of that Ilk

This is the Chief's reply to questions sent to us from our South Carolina State Representative, Rebecca Forsythe.

*What do the colors of our tartan represent? Do they represent the region we originate from or is there a deeper meaning? How modern is modern? When did we, as a clan, stop wearing the ancient tartan and begin to wear the modern? Also was our Motto used as our war cry?*



Although the use of coloured threads by the Celtic people of Central Asia was adopted long before the foundation of Scotland it was included in materials randomly and purely for decoration, it did not have any territorial or family significance. It was the Celtic settlers to Scotland who brought this form of decoration with them and was over the centuries developed into the advanced form we know today as tartan. First different designs signified the wearer was from a particular district and confined to the highland areas of the country then by 18<sup>th</sup> century tartans were adopted by families and clans principally in the Highlands where it became a dress of honour identifying the different clans who were frequently engaged in territorial and other disputes.

It was the military who popularised tartan beginning with the foundation of the Black Watch in 1725 who wore what was known as the Government Tartan. Because the first troops were raised from the estates of the Duke of Argyll, a strong supporter of the Hanoverian Monarchy, the Tartan as it remains today was based on the Argyll district design of Dark Green and Black. About this time many Highland Clans were beginning to adopt different tartans to signify their allegiance to their Chief and so it was by the rising of 1745-6 the many clans who rallied to the cause of the Young Pretender could be distinguished by the tartan they wore. Following the defeat at Culloden and the brutal pursuit of anyone suspected of being associated with the rebellion, either in person or sympathy, the wearing of the Kilt and display of tartan together with the playing of bagpipes was forbidden, this was reinforced by an Act of Parliament in 1747 which at the same time stripped the feudal system personified in the powers of the Baronial system by which a baron might raise his tenants to arms; the Baronial courts were also reduced and most of their judicial functions transferred to the Sheriff Courts.

It was as a result of the fear of invasion by Napoleon and his French troops that a system of the raising of irregular military formations known as Fencibles was instituted in England and in Scotland the Duke of Gordon raised and funded his first regiment called the "Duke of Gordon's 4<sup>th</sup> Fencible" from his estates in 1775. For a uniform they were clad in Government Tartan uniforms for

in recognition of the value attached to the wearing of the Kilt in Scotland Parliament had relaxed the proscription of 1746. A second Regiment was raised from the Duke's estates in 1793 and it was decided that it should have a distinctive tartan, an idea put forward by the Duchess. At this time a letter written in 1793 by William Forsyth, a manufacturer from Aberdeenshire stated "When I had the honour of communicating with His Grace the Duke of Gordon, he was desirous to have patterns of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Plaid with a small yellow stripe properly placed. I enclose three patterns of the 42<sup>nd</sup> plaid all having yellow stripes, when the plaids are worn the yellow stripes will be square and regular. I imagine the yellow stripes will appear very lively." One of the patterns was then selected. The Duke's second regiment was now named "The Gordon Highlanders" and the 4<sup>th</sup> Fencibles were then incorporated into it, all wore the plaid designed by William Forsyth whose place of business was in Huntley, Aberdeenshire.

The date 1793 is also given by the Scottish Tartan Authority for the design and production of the Forsyth plaid, indicating that William Forsyth whilst designing for the Duke also produced the design for his family, the tartan we recognise today as the "Ancient Forsyth". The date is interesting as our plaid is very similar to that worn by the Clan Leslie who have replaced our yellow stripe with a white one, however, the Authority give a date of 1850 for the "Hunting Leslie". These dates contradict the information given by some writers that Forsyth, was a later Tartan could be attributed to a "Lazy" designer who had simply amended the Leslie tartan by the substitution of a yellow stripe for the white. Today there are some variations to our Forsyth tartan though all use the "thread count" which is a system used by manufacturers to faithfully reproduce the pattern. The Forsyth "Pipers Tartan" shows a bolder pattern whilst the coloured thread is slightly muted. The Forsyth "Muted" tartan is altogether more olive and brown in appearance but still uses the same thread count, it is a relatively modern interpretation of the plaid and suitable for jackets and trews. All the early Tartans used vegetable dyes and to these early colours the classification "ancient" was applied. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century the currently used "aniline" dyes were introduced giving

*(Continued on page 6)*



## THE MEMORIAL WALL OF NAMES FOUNDATION

By: Edgerton Forsyth, Chief's Commissioner for Canada

*Commissioner Edgerton Forsyth is appealing to our Canadian members and those of us in the U.S. who have Canadian Veteran ancestors buried around the world to support "The Memorial Wall of Names Foundation" and create a place where we may visit and honor our loved ones who were buried in foreign lands before 1970.*

Following several trips to Europe with fellow veterans and visiting war cemeteries, I saw that one in four grave markers were identified "Known only to God". In 2000, I began to research how the war cemeteries were established.

Between 1914 and 1918 the British Government discussed how they would honor their Fallen soldiers. A small group decided that all the Fallen of the Commonwealth would be buried in Cemeteries, which were set-up under a Commonwealth War Graves Commission. They would all pay into a fund to create and maintain these cemeteries. It was also established that it was unlawful for anyone to bring their Fallen, next of kin, home.

Three years later, in 1921, groups working for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission had to visit all places where a Commonwealth soldier died and the remains were buried in a battlefield. This rule was also applied from 1939-1945, with field burials in a more expanded area and in more countries. I believe the USA, initially, decided to follow this burial method. The USA, however, allowed the next of kin to have their Fallen brought home, to be buried in home town cemeteries or Arlington National Cemetery.

Canada followed this law until 1970, resulting in 105,000 of their total Fallen, from all wars and peace-keeping missions, being buried in 75 countries and thousands of cemeteries. The number of cemeteries is so high because many WWII Air Crews were shot down in foreign lands, buried in Church Cemeteries and never reburied in the large cemeteries.

Since the repatriation of the remains of all of those fallen prior to 1970, would probably never gain the support of a majority of Canadians, we believe the best option would be the creation of a Memorial to all the Fallen. The Memorial would identify the names of the Fallen in one location, Canada. They will be equally Recognized, Honored, and Remembered, forever.

With this in mind, my son, Robert granddaughter Anne, and three other directors have formed a group called the Memorial Wall of Names Foundation. We have carried out some minor fundraising and will begin a major effort this year. In 2005, we sent an open letter to all members of the 39th Parliament, proposing that the front lawn of Parliament Hill, as an appropriate location for this memorial. Parliament has not responded regarding this request, nor offered any other site. We believe the decision must be one that the citizens of Canada make and we are appealing to everyone to write our government members, MP's, Prime Minister, and PMO office, requesting that the site be approved as the location for the Memorial.

You may send your appeal via e-mail to: [fb56653@gmail.com](mailto:fb56653@gmail.com) and we will forward it to the Prime Minister. You may also use this e-mail address for any questions or to obtain further information on the project.

If you would like to learn more about the concept for this Memorial or make a donation, please visit our website: <http://www.memorialwall.ca/>.

*(Continued from page 5) The History of our Forsyth Tartan and Motto*

### Instaurator Ruinea

a more muted tone, however, the use of the term ancient simply indicates "original colours" and not necessarily the age of the design.

#### References :

The Scottish Tartan Information Centre, Stirling.  
The Scottish Tartan Authority, Edinburgh

The "Motto" comes from Isaiah Chapter 58. verses 8-12 which was read from the King James version of the Bible at the Inauguration. As for the so called "War Cry", there is no historical record of there ever having been one as this is mainly associated with Highland Clans, so the Lord Lyon Sir James Monteith-Grant suggested the place "Ethie" it being the name of the hereditary Barony in possession of the Chief in 1978 when the Clan and Family were recognised by the Crown as having reformed.



(Continued from page 1) SCOTLAND DECIDES By: Amelia Couper,



Oh sure there was plenty of sweet talk...that the UK is "better together" and stronger united in global terms. "The Vow" was given concerning their promise of supporting "Max Devo" or maximum devolution powers for Holyrood. That "vow" already is not being upheld. Frankly, I found some of the rhetoric utilised by English politicians towards Scotland during this time was similar to that of an aggrieved spouse telling his abused partner "please don't leave, I know you're not happy, but if you stay and we don't get divorced, I promise this and I promise that."

I wasn't surprised that as early as a year ago, the Bank of England governor warned that if Scotland went independent they would not be permitted officially to use the Pound Sterling. This was always a major issue for Alex Salmond and the SNP: what currency would then Scotland use? He always contended that there was no reason or problem why they couldn't continue to use the Pound (like some countries use or "pin" the dollar to their currencies) or once in the EU then use the euro. In my opinion, this issue really was never explained fully enough by Salmond to relieve voters' worries. Also, Brussels (seat of EU government) made it clear that an independent Scotland would not automatically be entered into the EU and therefore would have to reapply for membership. In the meantime, use of the Euro would be impossible. So, admittedly, the currency issue was a major problem for the Yes campaign. As a result of statements issued by the Bank of England, many international and EU businesses threatened to remove any current sites they operated in Scotland and also to no longer do business with them. Some of the UK banks, including mine, National Westminster, RBS, removed millions of pounds from Scotland and moved resources to England before the vote, "just in case."

I also wasn't surprised at reactions in certain EU countries. Both Spain and France have dealt with regional separatism. Even the "Auld Alliance" wasn't enough to make France support Scotland in their bid for independence! It wasn't personal, though, it was financial. In fact, it seems the vote came down to the issue of money and finance. The polls right before the vote showed the "Yes" camp in the lead, then the last gasp of financial threats came again from England/EU and many of these yes voters, I think, scared of an unclear financial future, changed their vote to no.

While the Scottish vote issue was happening throughout 2013-2014, another event unfolded. Another party, UKIP, reared its head and is now threatening to gain seats in parliament. Their party platform consists of several detestable beliefs. Many racist ones too, especial-

ly concerning migrants (such as myself). One point UKIP makes is that EU membership is no longer "good" for Britain and it should leave. For the most part, UKIP supporters didn't show much concern for Scotland leaving the union and their prevalent attitude was "good riddance" more tax money back into England, etc. Their overall belief is one of isolationism, that is, England first and England for the English, no matter what. I plan on detailing the UKIP issue in a future article. I mention them in reference to the Scottish referendum because, merely hours after the No vote won, Nigel Farage, UKIP leader, stated that all Scottish MPs should be ejected out of Westminster. According to him, Scot MPs have no right voting in Westminster, especially on issues outside of Scotland, and should stay in Holyrood. Not exactly the attitude of "better together" or a "united" kingdom?

After the vote result, there was a riot in central Glasgow, which the press played down, but according to sources on the internet, and witnesses present, it was quite nasty and worrying. Of course, as you know, Alex Salmond resigned as leader of the SNP. England moved on to other issues within 24-48 hours. Scotland was fairly irrelevant again, back to business as normal. Since the vote, more pressing issues have taken prominence most notably debating whether or not to aid other countries, such as America, with attacks on ISIS in Syria and Iraq (Parliament voted in favour). Also, the political parties have been holding their "conferences" or what in America would be the "party conventions" so this has taken prominence in the English news as well.

Admittedly, this article only basically touches upon some of the events that have taken place surrounding this referendum and is personal observation based upon news media, twitter, and six years living in Glasgow and Edinburgh as well as Scottish friends. One couple I know from Airdrie, for example, who don't want to be named, were particularly worried about this vote. They both were for "Yes" but didn't know what would happen so ended up voting "no" simply out of fear. He is English, she's born in Airdrie. They worried what independence would mean for him. Would he be able to carry on living there or would they have to move to England (which she would never do)? What would happen with the house he owns there?

It's a pity, a real lost opportunity, that so many people voted "no" out of fear. I understand this though, as many serious issues or plans were not fully explained by the SNP, but the real death knell for Scottish independence was the surge of threats towards Scotland from all sides. No country came forward (officially) to support their bid, not even America.

Now the "yes" campaign lives on in the "We are the 45" or simply "45" campaign and movement primarily on social media. They are angry and disappointed most so with their fellow countrymen and women who voted no, they state, primarily out of cowardice and fear. They feel betrayed.

What will happen now? For now, other problems and issues are taking precedence in Westminster and the impending 2015 election is most prominent on the minds of all political parties involved. Scotland has already taken its usual back seat.

What I have observed, and I personally feel my-

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 1) **SCOTLAND DECIDES -**  
By: Chief Alistair C.W. Forsyth of that ilk

cepted the English Governments offer of a financial bale out in return for Union . This infamous proposition was duly accepted by the Scottish Parliament for otherwise widespread bankruptcy could have brought the country to its knees. Now Queen Ann, the youngest daughter of King Charles II, appointed more Commissioners whose terms for Union favoured England though before this occurred both the English and the Scottish Parliament would have to approve those terms. The English Parliament had little difficulty whilst in Scotland there was a huge outcry against the move with many cities and burghs submitting petitions opposing the Act. The Scottish Parliament had to decide and such was the outrage that, fearing an armed insurrection, an Act was passed outlawing the "threatened hostile tumult" that was planned. Commissioners and Members of Parliament were mobbed and stoned and the proposed Act of Union burnt at many Mercat Crosses where Proclamations were normally read out. Under the settlement Queen Ann nominated Princess Sophia the Electress and Dowager Duchess of Hanover and a grand-daughter of King James I, as her successor, should she have no children, thus she sowed the seeds of the Jacobite Rebellions of 1715 and 1745 when Scots endeavoured to return to the ancient Royal line. It was not helpful to peace that sums amounting to L.39,875 were given to the Scottish Treasury, L. 12,000 to each Nobleman, L.6,000 to the other Commissioners and L.4,800 to the Scottish Secretary, at that time these were enormous sums of money and gave rise to the belief that they were bribes to reward those Scots who had passed the Act of Union.

Arising from the Union, in the short term Scots had a difficult time but within a generation matters had improved dramatically, Scots were foremost in the inventions that brought about the Industrial Revolution and Scots prospered in the development of the British Empire. So what has happened to bring about this change of affairs leading to the demand for independence? For the last fifty years Scotland has experienced a decline, unemployment has shot up to hover well above the national average, whilst its industrial base progressively diminished with the dismembering of the British Empire which closed a lucrative source of employment, the tea and coffee plantations of India and Africa passed into local ownership, the Indian Jute and Cotton industries also whilst at home the Coal mines and Steel mills also closed. The entry to the European Common Market together with the discovery of North Sea Oil was a mixed blessing for the oil revenues did not remain in Scotland but passed to the British Treasury and the E.C fleets had rights to fish in Scottish waters resulting in the serious decline in stocks and livelihoods. It is true that agriculture began to flourish but with mechanisation labour was no longer required as before. Many through this period of change decided to emigrate to the benefit of Australia, North America and New Zealand. It was understandable that resentment borne out of despair took hold, the centre of Government in Westminster seemed far away and housed a British political class that appeared to look after its own but as agitation for change grew a Referendum was held in

1976 in which some 40% opted for change. The Government response was a number of promises that were never fulfilled. Meanwhile it was felt that North Sea oil revenues were shoring up Britain with little or no benefit to Scotland so that again in 1997 following a second Referendum a limited devolution of power from Westminster to a newly constituted Scottish Assembly was given. Since that time the Scottish Nationalists led by Alec Salmon achieved first a minority Government and then outright control. This administration has achieved remarkable success in revitalising the country offering a vision of yet greater things to come under an independent Scottish Government which has brought about the current Referendum. The British Government still remote or perhaps badly advised thought that this exercise would close down the agitation and agreed to abide by the result. We now know that the result was a decisive decision for Scotland to remain within the United Kingdom and to ensure this the Westminster Government has promised to devolve more control to the Scottish Assembly making it more or less autonomous within the British Realm. Although the Referendum has split the population almost in half the outcome is perhaps the very best for Scotland and it remains to be seen how their future will unfold.

(Continued from page 7)  
**SCOTLAND DECIDES**  
By: Amelia Couper

self, is general unrest, unhappiness, and frustration in Britain. Surviving here, unless one is very wealthy, is extremely difficult. The cost of living has never been higher. Most people are using credit cards to buy food and fuel. Many are one paycheque away from being on the street.

Many in England are exhibiting (illustrated in UKIP) very racist tendencies and isolationism. Wales has stated, that although they will not seek independence, if they could they would. What of Northern Ireland? No one has addressed this, probably because it is the most explosive issue of all, both historically and emotionally.

I personally was a "Yes" vote in my heart. I'm disappointed and disgusted with how Westminster and some people in the UK behaved and handled the situation. Many old wounds for Scots have been reopened and it will take a long time for them to heal.

#### Editors Note:

**This note was sent to me from Catrina Forsyth, a cousin who lives in Scotland.**

A lot of people are devastated that it was a NO vote. For me a YES vote was hope for my children's future, change for the better, control of our money and resources. Yes it would have been a long hard road to get there, but one worth being a part of. I don't believe that Scotland will benefit from any extra powers under this government. Politicians are all corrupt and promise what they can't deliver.





## Flowers Of The Forest

### Gordon James Forsyth 1921-2010

By: Heather Forsyth Kehr and Monta Rae Forsyth Jeppson



**Gordon James Forsyth**

Gordon James Forsyth died on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 at the age of 92 years. He was born November 29, 1921 in Magrath, Alberta Canada; the sixth of nine children of Frank and Rachel Ackroyd Forsyth. When he was 3 years old his family moved to Hill-spring, Alberta Canada.

He spent most of his teenage years in Kalispell, MT. In 1939 he left high school to serve several months in the Civilian Conservation Corps. He later completed high school in Provo, Utah.

He earned much-needed funds for the family by joining the Utah National Guard. When they mobilized for war, Gordon transferred to the U.S. Army Air Force and served for 5 years.

Gordon met Nadene Dow at Brigham Young University and they were married in June 1946. He graduated from BYU in 1949 and went on a mission to New England for two years, returning in 1951 and then getting his Master's degree in Journalism.

Gordon and Nadene bought their first home in Provo Utah, then in 1958 they moved to Dugway, Utah where Gordon set up the graphics department for the Army Weapons School. By this time all five of their children were born: Vaughn, Karl, Janene, Mark, and Heather.

From Dugway, the family moved to Arlington, Virginia in 1959. Over the years Gordon worked in Washington DC for the Federal government in the departments of Interior and Agriculture and as a speech writer for several congressmen.

Gordon and Nadene divorced in 1990. He retired from the Federal government service in 1991 and later moved to California to be closer to his family. After moving to the Santa Cruz area he met and fell in love with Phyllis Thevenin, and married her on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2006.

Gordon was an inspiration to all who knew him and he will be greatly missed. He is survived by his children; Heather Forsyth Kehr, Janene Forsyth Adema, Karl James Forsyth, and Gordon Vaughn Forsyth, his brother Le Grand Forsyth and his sisters

Monta Rae Forsyth Jeppson and Nola Fern Forsyth-Blackmun. Heather, Monta Rae, and Nola are all members of the Clan Forsyth Society.

### Robert Emil Forsyth 1922-2014

By: Joyce Forsyth



**Robert Emil Forsyth with his great granddaughter, Laelynn Marie Woodrum**

My father in law Robert Emil Forsyth died on September 12, 2014. He was born on October 23, 1922 in Ellwood City to the late Emil and Marie Steinecke Forsyth. He graduated from Lincoln High School and West Point Academy, where he earned a degree in Marine and Mechanical Engineering. Robert served with the U.S. Merchant Marines from 1943 until 1954 as a Chief Engineer Officer. He then had worked for Matthews Conveyor from 1955 until its closing in 1974, and then for the Aetna Standard Engineering Company until his retirement. He was a member of the Bethel Lutheran Church in Glenshaw.

He is survived by Elsie, his wife of 61 years. They have two wonderful sons, David and James, 9 lovely grandchildren and an adorable great granddaughter. One of his great achievements in life was writing a genealogy of his Forsyth family.

He always enjoyed Scottish food, company and of course the bag pipes. He will be sorely missed by his family and friends.

Robert's family history is documented in the book he and Ellen W. Forsyth Phillips published in 1992

**Adam & Ellen (Latta) Forsyth's Family**



# CLAN FORSYTH SOCIETY U.S.A.

## 2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership includes your spouse and dependent children  
under the age of 18 (Junior Memberships at no additional cost).

***Renewals are due by December 31, 2014***

Your continued membership in Clan Forsyth Society USA is appreciated.  
Your dues help support our presence at various festivals around the country,  
our newsletter, our genealogy collection, our website  
and other projects to honor our Forsyth ancestors.

***We encourage each of you to tell your Forsyth family about the Clan Forsyth Society and invite them to become members. We will be happy to send them an application form and a complimentary copy of our latest newsletter.***

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

\* If female, please include your maiden name at the end in brackets

SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If female, please include maiden name at the end in brackets

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT: Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Place: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Place: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND BIRTHDATES: \_\_\_\_\_

**New U.S. memberships** are \$25.00 **Outside U.S. memberships** are \$30.00

**All renewals for regular memberships (U.S. and other)** are \$25.00

**Renewing Seniors**, 65 yrs. and over, may elect to pay a senior membership of \$15.00,  
although a Regular membership is always appreciated.

**Members who joined in 2014**. Your dues will be prorated for the remaining months of 2015.  
(For prorated amount due see email sent with this newsletter or note on printed version)  
Please contact Dale Sandusky if you have any questions. [Forsyth@xmission.com](mailto:Forsyth@xmission.com)

**Make your check payable to: Clan Forsyth Society U.S.A. and mail to:**  
Clan Forsyth Society U.S.A.  
4336 South 3150 West  
West Valley City, UT 84119

***We Now offer the convenience of using your PayPal account or Credit Card  
If you would like a PayPal Invoice, please contact [MarshaRichardson@Gmail.com](mailto:MarshaRichardson@Gmail.com)***

## FOUNDING FAMILIES DAY

By Jane Platt

Descendants  
of Milford's  
Founders in  
costume



Founding Families Day, part of the celebrations of Milford's 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, was an even bigger success than we had imagined. Milford has a Memorial Bridge with the names of the Founders and their wives carved on stones. This was built for the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary because the settlers had been buried with no permanent grave markers.

We had started contacting people by email, putting publicity in the local paper and in genealogy magazines. By the deadline we had heard from over 100 who planned to attend. By the day of the event, about 300 people came from 26 states, the District of Columbia and one province of Canada. We had put those from each family in touch with each other by email well ahead of the event.

Friday evening July 18, was a reception at the First Church of Christ, Congregational. There was a large turnout, packing their Fellowship Hall. Dick and I and our committee had been planning this for a year. Because in my mind I was reviewing "to dos" and "what ifs," the evening was a happy blur for me. I was able to connect faces with names of folks I had met only by email.

Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> we registered attendees, had them sign their names on charts representing each founder, and showed a slide show of the founding. Cousins connected over coffee and donuts, comparing lines of descent. Mayor Benjamin Blake sent a Proclamation welcoming our visitors and declaring July 19, 2014 Founding Families Day in Milford. We held family association meetings and enjoyed a box lunch.

Attendees could tour the Milford Cemetery, Milford Historical Society and the Genealogy Room of the Milford Public Library. In the afternoon we took pictures of family groups by the stone with the name of the settler they were related to. There are 54 stones on the bridge, so this took a long time. We kept hearing thanks for arranging the event and there was a palpable feeling of joy and community. It was exhausting for us, but we had the time of our lives.

Sunday many of us attended a service in the style of the Puritans at the First Church, also 375, as it had been founded at the same time as the town. Some of us wore Puritan dress. The service included music and readings and a reflection on both the settlers' courage and hard work and the impact of their arrival on the Native Americans who were already here. This was followed by a reception and a tour of the church.

There is a lot of enthusiasm for establishing an association of descendants to have additional get togethers on a smaller scale, more frequently than every 25 years.

# Short Story Take One

By: Gregory Richard Forsyth

Shortly after joining The Forsyth Clan in August 2012 we received the Quarterly Issue of The Griffin from Marsha Richardson. It was a pleasure to read down through the issue and I wondered why I didn't join earlier. Much earlier.

Several times since then Marsha has put a call out for aspiring authors to submit articles for The Griffin. I'm thinking maybe I could ..... but I don't know the whole story of my family and their migration from the east to the west and their settling on the Eastern Slope of the Colorado Rockies.

Well, I have some ancient memories of stories I heard when I was young and they could be a fabrication, or half truths @ best. I wondered if I could write a story while "not letting the truth get in the way of a good story". I knew better than that.

This past winter I approached Marsha with an abbreviated Clan Forsyth lineage chart and some of the knowledge I imagined I knew. She researched and also forwarded my info to Eddie Forsyth, former Clan Forsyth genealogist. With their help, along with information my mom told me I was able to trace my lineage back 11 generations to Old Gilbert Forsyth from Ballindalloch, Scotland. Eddie Forsyth also has traced his lineage back to Old Gilbert Forsyth. Anyone else?

Well I know quite a bit more now than I knew 8 months ago, but I have lots more questions also. And that's the perplexing part about writing this story. And it was holding me back until.....

Now. Something Marsha wrote me sparked me. She said it could be a short story similar to the one in the July Issue about the poems her grandmother saved from her grandfather. And that took me back to another short story I read in the April issue of The Griffin. Entitled "Strawberry Picking" by Mary Lou Medlock Peterson the story is about an area of our country that my family settled and lived and the wildlife they also encountered there --- starting in the 1860's.

As you can see this isn't really going to be a short story, but I hope to be able (like Paul Harvey) to tell the rest of the story



## HIGHLAND GAMES AND FESTIVAL REPORTS

### 59th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

Hosts: Dale M. & Tanya Sandusky and Marsha and Frank Richardson

By: Margy Forsythe



Dale Forsyth Sandusky and Margy Forsythe

We began planning our trip to Grandfather Mountain Highland Games & Gathering of the Scottish Clans in Linville, North Carolina back in January when we saw in the Griffin that it was being held July 10-13 this year. Tom and I had already planned a vacation in the Outer Banks of North Carolina for some time in July. We could easily add a few days to gather at the Forsythe Clan Tent before heading to the East Coast.

We left home early Wednesday July 9 and spent one night in West Virginia before arriving in Boone, North Carolina on Thursday July 10 around dinner time. After eating dinner and unpacking we decided to call it an early night and not go to the torchlight ceremony.

Friday morning July 11, we arrived at MacRae Meadows before 10 a.m. and it was already hopping with competitions and entertainment. What an awesome sight met our eyes as there were over 89 clans around the perimeter of MacRae Meadows. We quickly located the Forsyth tent where we found Marsha Richardson, the editor of THE GRIFFIN and acting vice-president of Eastern Forsyth(e) Clan. She had information pamphlets and back copies of THE GRIFFIN available. A wooden Highlander, dressed in a Forsyth(e) kilt greeted visitors to the tent. A large bulletin board held articles that Marsha had collected detailing John Forsyth for whom Forsyth County Georgia is named. Marsha had a rubber stamp with the Forsyth name and crest. Many young folks carried booklets to be stamped at the clan tents which they

visited. Although some children paused only long enough to receive the stamp, occasionally they or their parents would remain to ask questions about the pistol lying on the table, the Forsyth tartan, Forsyth genealogy or the open jar of tootsie rolls. (Hey, whatever it takes to catch their attention!)

Also hosting the tent was Marsha's husband Frank Richardson and Dale & Tanya Sandusky. Dale explained the significance of the pistol to Forsyth History, but that's another story.

Both Friday and Saturday Tom and I took several hours to walk through the clan tents stopping at each of the Celtic Groves to listen to the different bands. We also watched the Highland Dance competitions and sheep herding demonstration. There were so many activities going on in the meadow at any given time over the four day event that it was best to have one of the Souvenir programs they sold at the gate for \$5. (We just borrowed the one Marsha had bought to keep at the tent for reference. Thanks, Marsha!) Events included Bike and Foot races, Wrestling, Track and Field events, Fiddling & Pipe bands, Heavy athletic demonstrations and competitions like caber tossing, stone put, Scottish hammer and weight throws. They also held a harp competition that included Jaw Harps which mostly children were demonstrating. I have to admit that I much preferred listening to the Celtic Harps. Besides entertainment & competitions, there were a variety of food wagons or booths. Purely in the interest of researching our Scottish Heritage, Tom and I shared a steamed plum pudding which was drizzled with caramel sauce & topped with whipped cream. We considered having Scotch eggs but I ate a Birdie & Tom had a sausage roll.

Friday the events concluded around 3pm. We returned after supper for the Celtic Music Jam at 7pm. The bands were great and the weather cooperated. As the sun set, we were treated to the sight of a super full moon serving as a glorious backdrop to the band tents.

We noticed on both Friday & Saturday that in several of the clan tents people were playing violins, guitars, flute or bouzouki & singing along. We even had a little music going on in the Forsyth tent on Saturday afternoon. The Monroe Clan was hosting tents beside & across from ours. They invited us to join them in a "Scotch Tasting" on Saturday. I tried just one sip & decided I just did not have enough Scotch blood to survive more than that. Tom was able to savor all 3 whiskeys.

Saturday ended rather abruptly around 4pm when the clouds that had been threatening throughout the day decided to let loose. The center poles of tents were lowered after table contents had been safely wrapped in tarps or taken to cars. We were leaving to continue on towards the Outer Banks in the morning so we decided to continue our visit with the Richardson's and Sandusky's over Barbeque and Trout dinners at "Pedalin' Pig BBQ" off Hwy 105 near Banner Elk, North Carolina.

We have attended Clan Gatherings or Highland Games at Alma, MI, Midland, MI & Ligonier, PA but the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games is the biggest of

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12) HIGHLAND GAMES AND FESTIVAL REPORTS

them all. This was the 59th year of the Gathering of the Scottish Clans at Grandfather Mountain and on Saturday morning as the runners of the Mountain Marathon entered the circle of clan tents and the pipe and drum bands played their haunting tunes, you could imagine centuries of Clans men & their families gathering from all areas of Scotland to share news & music and to compete in games of strength and skill. Only now they gather from many states & countries.

## 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Colorado Scottish Festival and Rocky Mountain Highland Games

By: Robert and Denise Forsyth



Robert and Denise Forsyth

Greetings from Colorado. This year Denise and I have attended our 7<sup>th</sup> Rocky Mountain Highland Games in Highlands Ranch Colorado. The drive up to Denver from Colorado Springs was pleasant and Denise and I were looking forward to another successful event. As usual we arrived the day prior to settle in to the hotel and prep the clan tent and our displays for the next day.

The weather has proved to be both windy with the occasional rain and lightning, all typical challenges for us here in Colorado. We have been working on a way to make things more mobile to help the setup and tear down go more quickly. This year we came to the conclusion that Velcro would help out greatly. Next year we plan to use Velcro for the display boards which should reduce the threats of wind and we have already laminated all our key information against rain so it should make for a more pleasant setup next year.

Turnout for the games appeared lower than last year. Denise and I noted fewer children stopped by the clan tents and we did not see as many folks attend the events like last year. The venues were lively though and the games still had a large turnout. Major events this year at the festival included the usual Solo Piping, Drumming and Band Competitions, Scottish Athletic Competitions, Highland Dancing Competitions, Irish Step Dancing, Massed Pipes and Drums, Parade of Clans, Dogs of the British Isles, the British Car Display, Historical Re-enactors, Bonnie Knees Contest, and of course Haggis and Scotch Tasting. I personally like the caber tossing events when I get a chance to attend.

The traditional noonday Parade of Clans kicked off both Saturday and Sunday without incident. The parade includes clan representatives, massed pipes and bands, and other festival participants. As usual we lined up early, swapped a few tall tales and an occasional sip of scotch waiting for the parade to begin. The parade includes a closing selection of music by the

massed pipes and bands, of which my favorite is Amazing Grace.

The Bonnie Knees contest was held on Saturday and the competition was fierce. The contest was moved to one of the beer/fest tents and attended by more visitors this year than last (location, location, location). Clan Forsyth did not place this year although not from lack of effort. Bribes of money, scotch and other promises ran rampant as usual but we just couldn't pull it off this year. We'll be pulling out the stops for next year and hope to do better. Of course all bribes/donations are forwarded to various charitable organizations so it's all for a great cause.

Despite spitting rain and the occasional display of lighting Saturday evening's concert went well. Carlos Nunez, also known as the "Jimi Hendrix of bagpipes" combines bagpipe music from a variety of cultures including Galicia and Latin America.

Cherylene Rosenvall (Dale M. Forsyth Sandusky's daughter) and her daughter Caelei stopped by this year in between competitions and chatted for a while. Our sons Johnathan and Michael Forsyth had planned to join us this year at the games but car trouble en-route forced them to return home.

Despite threatening weather Sunday afternoon's ceremonies were on time, recognizing competitors for their performances and hard work. Last year forced an early closure of the games for lightning but this year was more hospitable. The clans gathered shortly after the closing ceremonies to share a wee dram before parting ways. Denise and I bid farewell to friends and acquaintances, already planning ahead for next year's games.

## 149th SAN FRANCISCO SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GATHERING AND GAMES



Hosts: Waldo and Patricia Forsyth and Destine and Noel Schaefer

By: V.P. Bob Forsyth

The Caledonian Club of San Francisco held the 149th advent of its Scottish Highland Gathering and Games at the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Labor Day weekend. This annual, two-day event is the oldest

(Continued on page 14)



(Continued from page 13) HIGHLAND GAMES AND FESTIVAL REPORTS

and largest Scottish Games in the United States and is attended by over 30,000 people; Clan Forsyth was one of 138 such organizations there. The normally toasty Pleasanton weather was fair and a bit cooler this year, adding to everyone's enjoyment of this spectacular celebration. Touted as "the most complete Scottish event in the world," the Pleasanton Games attract the best available talent in every field of athletics, entertainment, piping and drumming, sheep herding, dancing and foods - not to mention hundreds of vendors offering an enormous variety of products and services. One of the most beautiful spectacles of course was the Massed Bands and having the Scots Guard and the appearance of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Band made it even more special.

Clan Forsyth's booth sported a new canopy and a good corner location, which attracted more visitors than previously experienced. Our hosts Waldo and Patricia Forsythe and Destine and Noel Schaefer were happy to report that about 30 visitors signed their register, including our Washington State Representative, Cheryl Forsyth Reid.

The Clan Forsyth Society banner was marched around the grandstand Saturday and Sunday, at the mid-day Parade of the Clans. All on all, it was a memorable experience for all participants and a good showing for Clan Forsyth. Everyone had fun and we can't wait for next year, the 150th Scottish Games!

## CLAN FORSYTH SOCIETY USA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### TUCSON CELTIC FESTIVAL & SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES

Rillito Park Raceway, Tucson, Arizona  
November 1-2, 2014

Clan Forsyth Tent hosted by Arizona Forsyth Reps. -  
Benton and Lisa Scott, with help from Brian Fox

Email: [LnBscott@cox.net](mailto:LnBscott@cox.net)

Website: <http://tucsoncelticfestival.org/>

### Scots On The Rocks

Old Spanish Trails Arena, 3641 S Highway 191  
Moab, Utah (close to Arches National Park)

November 7-8 (Friday night and All Day Saturday)

Dale M. Forsyth Sandusky may host a Clan Forsyth booth at  
this event. Please contact him for updates

Email: [forsyth@xmission.com](mailto:forsyth@xmission.com)

Website: <http://www.moabcelticfestival.org/>

Check our Clan Forsyth Society USA website  
<http://clanforyth.com/>

or our Clan Forsyth Society USA  
Facebook Group for updates.

## ROUND HILL GAMES

By: Jane Platt, New England Regional Director



Tim Forsyth, Jane Platt, Jacob Cullers

The Round Hill Scottish Games were held in Norwalk, Connecticut on July 5, 2014. The weather is usually hot and humid, so the clan tent organizers try to take care of us. They provide ice cubes in a small styrofoam chest, and this year they gave us personal misting devices so we could spray water on ourselves. The day was warm but dry so my mister never came out of the box.

This was our last time hosting the tent. Tim Forsyth of Niantic, Connecticut, Jacob Cullers of Waterford and friend Irene of Windsor came and participated in the opening ceremony with me. Jacob carried the tartan banner and I carried my bouquet of silk forsythia. We enjoyed getting to know them. Our niece, Rebecca Clark, came up from Long Island for the day. I will be meeting with Tim and Jacob to plan for their hosting Forsyth tents in the future.

A brisk wind blew and bent the poles which hold up our canopy. Folks from nearby tents helped us cobble it together with poles and duct tape, and it managed to hold up for the rest of the day. The canopy is intact, but the poles barely made it through our last Games.

We could see the caber tossing from our tent. Few of the athletes were able to turn the caber and none came close to a perfect 12 o'clock. Fewer bands were there than in the past. The date was not good. The committee had wanted to have the Games the last Saturday in June, but were preempted by a wedding. This probably affected participation. The massed band was smaller, but still produced the proper goose bumps.

Look for reports on the  
Ligonier Highland Games  
and the Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival  
and Highland Games  
in our January 2015 Griffin.



# A Child's Memory of France in WWII

By: Roland Forsyth, member living in France



Roland, Robert & George

I was only 7 years old when the war came to France. With the advancing of the German troops our school closed its doors on 24 May, 1940 and the next day our family fled our home.. In my previous story, "The Exodus, A Tale of My Forsyth Family", published in the January issue of The Griffin, I told the story of my family and our journey. Now I would like to tell you how it was through the eyes of a child.

When we arrived at the Seamen's Mission in Marsille, we were each given a place to sleep. The first night we all ate at the communal table located on the first floor, but my mother arranged to do our own cooking and from then on we ate in the room where we slept. The school was located next door and the boats in the port were my distraction

We later moved to Mazarques and lived in the annex of the residence that the British Vice Consul rented. I remember that the first night my parents slept with the windows open and in the morning my mother discovered, with horror, that my baby brother had been bitten by mosquitoes. Near us was a chalet, an old dog kennel built of rock, and a fish pond. I recall watching small frogs climb into the trees.

At school we were asked to support Marechal Petain, President of the Council of the Vichy government in France, by sending our pictures and our letters. I received two responses from him. The first was at Christmas time, when he wrote; "My child, I liked your drawing" and again in March 1942 he wrote; "I received the letter in which you let me know that you used my advice".

I recall one day all the children were gathered in the school courtyard to sing "La Marseillaise" and "Marshal Here We Are", which was the unofficial anthem of the French Vichy government. As a child of France I had to support the Marshal, but the attitude of two teachers troubled me because they openly mocked the propaganda.

I was not a very good pupil, so my parents decided to find someone who could help me with my studies. They met Mrs Nalin, a former teacher, who helped me with a few of my classes. She later orga-

nized a small school for myself and two other children.. She once remarked to my parents, "Roland is smart. Why do you not make him study?". I must have eventually learned how to study since I later received a degree in architecture.

One day my father and I were in the Court Saint Louis, when an employee of the British consul passed us in a car. Seeing my father, he stopped and beckoned him to approach. My father did, but told me to stay where I was. As they talked, time stood still for me and to this day I can tell you the location of each of them. After the war, my father told me it was that day that he learned that the Allies would be landing in North Africa the next day, 8 November 1942. Three days later my father made his way out of France into his homeland, where he joined the British Army.

Sometime later my mother and I traveled by train to her sister's home in Normandy seeking provisions. On the return trip a noise grabbed my attention. Two planes arose from the rear of our train; hedgehopping lower than the trees. I saw the elliptical shape of the wings and clearly saw the pilots. The train stopped and the engineer and fireman departed from the locomotive, but nothing happened as this was only a passenger train. Because of the delay we arrived at the station at the time the curfew was in effect and so we could not take the subway home and must spend the night in a hotel nearby.

While walking outside one day, we noticed that the air activity was very intense. A wave of hundreds of bombers passed overhead, likely returning from a raid in the Paris region.. The noise was deafening, flak in action, black points in the sky and smoke. A plane was hit, and I had the impression that it would hit us as it crashed, but it was far enough away that we did not hear the explosion. We only saw the smoke. Another time I saw the wreck of a Messerschmitt with its tail pierced by bullets.

On 6 September 1943, a B17 of the 384<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group, returning from a raid on Stuttgart, ended up 2 km from us. The engines stopped because they were short of fuel and the plane ended up 2 km from us making a long furrow in the field. The crew of 10 men destroyed the aircraft and dispersed, but four were caught. You can read more about this story by Sergeant Charles Fisher, "B 17 n 43-5720 Scarlet – Slightly Dangerous". I still have three cartridge cases from the wreckage.

The 15/16 of July 1944 we were brutally awakened by the sound of aircraft and flak. An extraordinary bright light entered our room and there were continuous explosions. My mother, brother and I took refuge on the ground floor in the hallway between the kitchen and scullery, where there was a thick wall. The site attacked was Nucourt, 6 km away, that was an old quarry converted to

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15) *A Child's Memory of France in WWII*

a factory where German V 1 flying bombs were assembled. Suddenly, in addition to the other noises, I heard bombs as if they banged together and the engines overspeed. I thought a plane had hit us and I ducked. Explosions were near the gable of the house. Bombs fell in a forest 200 meters away and eight craters still remain there. After the final raid, there was a strange calm, no more noise. The bomber which was shot down was a Halifax. It crashed at Mauréaumont 7 km away. I understand now that the bangs of the bombs were due to the propagation of a shock wave as the speed of the bombs became supersonic. It was terrifying. Nucourt was already bombed on 10 July and was now completely destroyed.

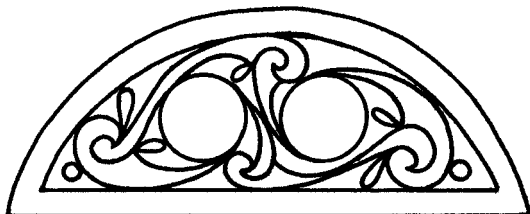
In a message from the commander of Nucourt, dated 16 July, 1944 he said, " 11:50 PM – 12:AM, heaving bombing attack on Nucourt". In another message the German commander said: "Attack on Nucourt by formation of 200 to 250 four engine bombers. Today in Valecourt, the sky is empty". I kept many windows, or chaff as it is called in the U.S., (Antiradar aluminum strips).

On the morning of 6 Jun, 1944 we heard on the radio that there was a landing in Normandy. When I arrived late to school, the teacher asked me; "Roland why are you late?" I answered; " There is a landing". The teacher broke my enthusiasm saying, " There will be many dead, but you will see your father".

There was a D-Day map of Normandy on the wall with pins and wire. Every day we repositioned the front line. The news came by the BBC, but there was background interference and the French version gave less details. The front came closer and one morning we were awakened by shots. I told my mother we should go to the shelter offered by a nearby cousin. She preferred to stay home, but I insisted. This shelter was an old cellar carved into the rock. We were welcomed among others and there were blankets for us. We could hear shots, short bursts and continuous rolling motor tanks advancing in line in the nearby plain. The fighting lasted one night and there were no civilian casualties in the village.

In the morning, I was with a friend and we saw passing military vehicles. Suddenly there was an altercation between two young men. One was accusing the other of being an FFI (French Forces of the Interior) .to be an FFI of the last hour. The FFI shot his gun and the other man collapsed. There was a blood stain in the middle of his chest. The man was killed.

The front line, on the side where my father was, was uncertain, but on 31 August, 1944 at 6:30 AM, my father arrived. I was 12 years old at the liberation of the village.



## Recipes From A Celtic Cottage

By: Doreane Sandusky Jarmin



### Morayshire Apples

One of my fall favorites! This recipe comes from an adopted Grandma whom lived in Montrose. She would make it when the Harvest came and the apples perfect.

This closely resembles a "crumble" you may wish to substitute butter for the suet.

#### The filling:

1 1/2 lb (675g) Cooking Apples  
2/3 Cup (5 oz) Water  
1/2 Cup (4 oz) Caster sugar  
Pinch of ground cloves (oh, the heavenly smell of it)

Gently dissolve the sugar in the water with the ground cloves in a saucepan over low heat.

Peel core and slice the apples and arrange in a large pie dish

Pour the sugar syrup over the apples.

#### The topping:

3/4 Cup (6 oz) Oatmeal, not instant,  
1/3 Cup (3 oz) Shredded suet (or butter if preferred)  
1/4 Cup (2oz) Brown sugar  
1/4 Cup (2oz) chopped Hazel nuts

Mix all the ingredients, rub (that means to mush it with yer hands!) in the butter if used instead of suet and spread over the apples. Press down gently and sprinkle a little more brown sugar over the top.

Bake in an oven at 350F/180C/Gas mark 4 for about an hour.

Serve hot with cream.

## GENEALOGY NEWS

By: Charles Hansen, Washington Member

## Charles A. Libby Photographer



The other day I was reading an article in the Inlander newspaper and they had a list of top 10 articles for 2013, while most were good one caught my eye. It was an article on Charles Libby, a photographer here in Spokane that took thousands of pictures of the area and people, and he kept a list of where each picture was taken, why and date it was taken. When he died the studio sold the collection to the Eastern Washington Historical Society, by then it totaled 200,000 photos and negatives of Spokane and the area around Spokane. The part of the Inlander article that caught my eye was that they did not know where he was from or much about his family. Charles and his son Charles Jr. operated the photography business till 1969.

This is a picture Charles Libby took of the baseball team my grandfather Charles Kelly managed. He was a grandson of Robert Forsyth. On the back they said it was taken at

Underhill Park in 1934 and the list of the players. You can see the Libby mark on the lower left of the picture, and I added the names of the players. My grandfather was the tall man in the back row. All of the players worked for the Great Northern Railroad in Hillyard, and win or loose after the game, they went to my grandfathers for a homemade beer. Royal Arcanum was a fraternal group something like the masons.

### So where did Charles Libby come from? I did a little online searching and found this:

Charles was born in Olympia, Washington to George A. Libby and Elizabeth Mauree born in Germany, George was the son of Aaron and Ruth Libby and born in Maine. George died in Olympia January 7, 1898 of consumption. George is listed in the 1879 Thurston county census as a lumberman and in the 1892 census as a miner. After the death of George, Elizabeth moved the family to Spokane and Addie the older sister to Charles set up a photography and art studio. Charles joined Addie and soon after set up his own studio for commercial photography. Charles married Gretchen Schlusser in Spokane July 12, 1905 and they had a son Charles Augustus Libby, Jr. May 24, 1907. Gretchen was born in St. Paul, Minnesota about 1885 to August Schlusser and Minnie Meyers. Elizabeth was listed in the 1900 census in Spokane with her children George H. age 29, Addie C. age 26, Charles A. age 21, and Ruth H. age 10. Elizabeth died May 27, 1932 in Spokane and is buried in Thurston County with her husband George Libby. So why did Elizabeth move her family to Spokane after her husband George A. Libby died? Well there was a Dr. George W. Libby also born in Maine, living in Spokane then, so was he a cousin to Elizabeth's husband George A. Libby?, possibly. There were a lot of Libby families in Maine in the 1800s. There was also an Isaac C. Libby, brother to George W. Libby. Gretchen Pauline Libby died April 6, 1957 and Charles

Augustus Libby died July 1966 both here in Spokane.

I had a hard time looking for Aaron and Ruth (Haseltine) Libby, found very little on Aaron so I checked a few books on Maine in the library and found Aaron was the Son of Seth and Lydia (Jordan) Libby, grandson of John and Anna (Fogg) Libby, great grandson of Henry and Honor (Hinkson) Libby and great great grandson of immigrant John and Judith Libby. John and Judith had nine children and their oldest son John and Agnes (Hanson) Libby were the ancestors of Dr. George Willard Libby and his brother Isaac Chase Libby. Dr. George was a prominent physician here in Spokane and Isaac and his wife Martha Libby were both school teachers at South Side High School (later renamed Lewis & Clark). A few years later Libby Junior High School was named for Isaac and Martha Libby.

So Charles A. Libby was a fifth cousin once removed from George and Isaac, so although not close relatives they were kin and all from the same area in Maine. Isaac remarried Alice Carey Traver after his first wife died and she was born in Olympia, Washington about the same time as Charles Libby was born, so did Elizabeth know Alice, and maybe this is why Elizabeth moved the family to Spokane. Elizabeth was also born in Germany and Spokane had a fairly sizable German population in the early 1900s. So now we have a couple of reasons for the move, but are either the correct reason? We may never know, but we are lucky Charles A. Libby came to Spokane and for all the photo's he took of the area and people.





Marsha Cain Richardson, Editor  
The Griffin Clan Forsyth Society of the U.S.A.  
11202 N. 61st Street  
Temple Terrace, FL 33617-3016



**Share your Forsyth pride with your children and your grandchildren.  
They are our future.  
Share this issue of The Griffin with them, encourage them to participate  
in Clan Activities and to join Clan Forsyth Society USA.**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Scotland Decides   | 9. <b>MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM</b>                      |
| 2. Officers, Directors, Representatives<br>And New Member list. | 10. Founding Families Day and Short Story Take<br>One  |
| 3. President's Message  | 11. Highland Games and Festival Reports                |
| 4. The Chaplin's Corner   | 15. A Child's Memory of France in WWII                 |
| 5. The History of our Forsyth Tartan<br>And Motto               | 16. Recipes From A Celtic Cottage                      |
| 6. The Memorial Wall of Names Foundation                        | 17. Genealogy News: Charles A. Libby Photogra-<br>pher |
| 9. Flower' Of The Forest  |  |